



☐ HURRICANE

Description

Hurricanes are severe tropical storms that spiral around a calm center known as the eye. Wind speeds range from 74 miles per hour to a high of 220 miles per hour. As hurricanes approach land, they create a storm surge along the coastline that raises water several feet above high tide levels. Hurricanes also dump heavy rains and cause flooding as they travel inland.

☐ *Related Hazards*

Hurricanes may be accompanied by other severe storm hazards such as lightning, tornados, and flooding.

Geographical Considerations

Vulnerable areas in the United States include the territories in the Caribbean, the coast from Texas to Maine, and tropical areas of the western Pacific Ocean, including Hawaii.